

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented): A method for identifying a plurality of active devices on a network, the method comprising:

A. executing a program comprising (1) issuing to each of the active devices one or more first requests for information comprising an indication of a presence of the device on the network and a device architecture; and (2) receiving in response to the first requests, a response;

B. receiving based on the device architecture indicated in the response, one or more scripts that request additional information about the device, wherein the scripts are customizable and executed outside the program;

C. executing the scripts; and

D. receiving the additional information.

5. (Previously Presented): A machine-readable medium that includes instructions for discovering active devices on a network, wherein such instructions, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

A. execute a program comprising (1) issuing to each of the active devices one or more first requests for information comprising an indication of a presence of the device on the network and a device architecture; and (2) receiving in response to the first requests, a response;

B. receive, based on the device architecture indicated in the response, one or more scripts that request additional information about the device, wherein the scripts are customizable and executed outside the program;

C. execute the scripts; and

D. receive the additional information.

6. (Previously Presented): A computer system for identifying a plurality of active devices on a network, the computer system comprising:

A. a computer, in communication with the network, that

executes a program comprising (1) issuing to each of the active devices one or more first requests for information comprising an indication of a presence of the device on the network and a device architecture; and (2) receiving in response to the first requests, a response;

receives, based on the device architecture indicated in the response, one or more scripts that request additional information about the device, wherein the scripts are customizable and executed outside the program;

executes the scripts; and

receives the additional information; and

B. a storage device coupled to the computer that stores the response and the additional information.

7. (New): A system, comprising:

- a manager object including a plurality of worker threads operating in parallel, a request queue, and a result queue;
- a plurality of request objects;
- a computer configured to process the manager object and the plurality of request objects, the manager object configured to receive each of the plurality of request objects and to organize each of the request objects in the request queue;
- a plurality of active devices on a network in communication with the computer, each of the plurality of request objects representing one of the active devices and a request for an indication of a presence of the one of the active devices on the network; and
- a storage device coupled to the computer,
- the manager object further configured to distribute each of the plurality of request objects in the request queue to one or more of the plurality of worker threads,
- each of the plurality of worker threads configured to process each of the plurality of request objects in the request queue and to perform at least identical discovery functions on the plurality of active devices in response to the request for an indication,

the manager object further configured to receive each of the plurality of request objects from the one or more of the plurality of worker threads after a response to the request for an indication has been received, and to organize in the result queue each of the plurality of request objects, and

the storage device configured to store the response received for each of the plurality of request objects.

8. (New): A method, comprising:

communicating with a plurality of active devices on a network;

providing a manager object including a plurality of worker threads operating in parallel, a request queue, and a result queue;

receiving in the request queue a plurality of request objects, each of the plurality of request objects representing one of the active devices and a request for an indication of a presence of the one of the active devices on the network;

distributing each of the plurality of request objects in the request queue to one or more of the plurality of worker threads, each of the plurality of worker threads configured to process each of the plurality of request objects in the request queue and to perform at least identical discovery functions on the plurality of active devices in response to the request for an indication;

receiving each of the plurality of request objects from the one or more of the plurality of worker threads after a response to the request for an indication has been received; and

organizing in the result queue each of the plurality of request objects; and

storing in a storage device the response received for each of the plurality of request objects.

9. (New): A computer program product including a computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions that, when executed on a computer, configure the computer to perform a method comprising the steps of:

communicating with a plurality of active devices on a network;

providing a manager object including a plurality of worker threads operating in parallel, a request queue, and a result queue;

receiving in the request queue a plurality of request objects, each of the plurality of request objects representing one of the active devices and a request for an indication of a presence of the one of the active devices on the network;

distributing each of the request objects in the request queue to one or more of the plurality of worker threads, each of the plurality of worker threads configured to process each of the plurality of request objects in the request queue and to perform at least identical discovery functions on the plurality of active devices in response to the request for an indication;

receiving each of the plurality of request objects from the one or more of the plurality of worker threads after a response to the request for an indication has been received; and

organizing in the result queue each of the plurality of request objects ; and

storing the response received for each of the plurality of request objects.